INTELL LIBRARY

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

To the Chairman and Members of
the Lepton Urban District Council

Mrs Haigh & Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual report for the year ended December 1925 including a survey of the last five years. The Urban District of Lepton comprises an area of 1863 acres roughly measuring 3 miles in length and 2 miles in breadth. It is situated on a Span of the Pennine Range. The watershed runs nearly down the centre draining on the south and west sides into the Belcon Brook and on the North west side into the Whitley Willows Brook which brooks divide the district from Kirkburton on the one side and Kirkheaton on the other. They meet at the extreme west of the district on the Huddersfield boundary The altitude varies from 200 ft. at the Western extremity to 800 ft. at the Eastern extremity. The district lies over the middle and lower coal measures and has a subsoil of clay and shale. In the upper part of the district are several small hamlets and scattered farms, in the lower portion are mills and more crowded collections of ~~houses~~ houses at Howley Hill, Fenay Bridge ,Spa Bottom and Lascelles Hall.

The occupations of the inhabitants are chiefly coal mining for the men and work in cotton, Wollen Yarn Spinning Mills and firework manufactories for the women and girls.

The population in 1921 was 3207 and estimated population for 1925, 3245.

Number of inhabited houses 1921 was 821, in 1925, 871. The number of families in 1921 was - and in 1925, 890.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

The rateable value is £ 15, 355 and amount represented by a penny rate is £ 63.19. 0.

During 1925 there were 28 deaths , 16 males and 12 females, and five deaths under one year. There were 5 deaths from Cancer, and one death from whooping cough, influenza and tuberculosis amoung the infectious diseases.

There were 53 births, 32 males and 21 females including 1 illegitamte male and 1 female.

Appended is a table showing deaths and births and infantile mortality rate for the last 5 years and the average :-

	Death rate	Birth rate	Infant Mortality Rate
1921	14.9	20.2	107
1922	11.1	11.7	79
1923	9.0	145	42
1924	11.4	15.4	40
1925	8.6	16.3	94
Average	11.1	15.6	72

You will see the death rate is the lowest by far for the 5 years and the birth rate the highest after 1921. The average closely approximates to the figures for England & Wales which are :-

12.2 16.3 and 75

There are about half a dozen cases receiving Poor Law Relief.

Many surgical cases are treated at the Royal Infirmary Huddersfield, but few medical cases.

OF HEALTH LIBRARY

General provision of Health service in the area:-

Hospitals provided or subsidized by Local Authority or County Council.

1. Tuberculosis.	Patients admitted to various sanatoria provided by W.R.C.C.
2. Maternity	Nil
3. Children	Nil
4. Fever	Joint Isolation Hospital at Kirkburton 31 beds. (Provided by 10 Urban Districts)
5. Small Pox	Hospital at Kirkburton, 8 beds. (Provided by same 10 Urban Districts)

Hospitals available for the area:-

1. General	Huddersfield Royal Infirmary
2. Maternity	Private arrangements with Mill Hill Maternity Home, Huddersfield, by patients, and Maternity Home of the Huddersfield Union. Unmarried mothers not barred.
3. Children	Admitted to Huddersfield Royal Infirmary.

There is no other institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate children and homeless children in this area.

Ambulance facilities.

1. Infectious disease	Joint Isolation Hospital ambulance
2. Non-infectious disease and accident cases.	The Huddersfield borough Police ambulance has been generally available for these cases.

Clinics and Treatment Centres

Maternity and Child Welfare clinics held once a week at Kirkburton under W.R.C.C.

Tuberculosis clinic held on 2 days a week at Tuberculosis dispensary Huddersfield, under W.R.C.C.

Treatment clinic for V.D. held at Huddersfield Infirmary.

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Public Health Officers

Part time I.O.H. A.Tait M.B.

Sanitary Inspector Frank Hardy and Rate Collector.

Professional Nursing in the Home

1. General none provided

2. Infectious cases , none provided.

Midwives

Two midwives practise in this district not provided or subsidized by L.A.

Chemical work

The W.R.C.C. ~~Laboratory~~ Laboratory at Wakefield is freely used for bacteriological examinations.

Legislation in force.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District

Water Nearly the whole of the district has a public water supply from Huddersfield Corporation waterworks at Blackmoorfoot and Deerhill. It is moorland water and having a plumbo solvent action receives preliminary treatment by addition of chalk at the waterworks. There have been no known cases of lead poisoning since 1910. The supply has been constant and is direct to the houses.

Drainage and Sewerage The whole of the district with exception of the hamlets of Townend ,Town Bottom, Lydgate is drainedinto the main sewers which go to the outfall works at Tandem. The drainage from above mentioned hamlets is carried on to land close to Whitley Woods where it eventually finds its way into Whitley Willows Brook.

Closet accommodation There are 470 privy middens - 147 water closets and 33 tub closets in the district. 2 additional W.C.'s to old property and 3 new W.C.'s have been erected during 1925. There has been no definite policy pursued for conversion to W.C.'s.

Scavenging The Council scavenge the district at a cost last year of £ 411.18.0. The contents of the privy middens and dustbins are conveyed in carts to several tips in the district.

Sanitary inspection of the area The inspection of the district is now worked in sections. The district is divided into 5 sections and the Sanitary Inspector makes a practically house to house inspection of one section a month as a result the whole district is gone over at least twice a year.

Appended is the Sanitary Inspector's report for last year.

Summary of Inspections, nuisances, reported and remedied for year ending 31st December 1925

Section	Reason	Informal Notice	Formal Notice	remedied
1	Monthly visit	2		2
"	"		1	1
3	"	1		1
2	"	3		3
1	On complaint		1	
4	Monthly visit	1		1
1	"	2		2
5	on complaint		1	1
2	monthly visit		3	2
1	on complaint	1		1
4	monthly visit	1	1	2
1	"		3	3
5	"	1		1
1	on complaint		2	
	Total	12	12	20

I have made special visits to Greavhouse, Butternab, Rowley Hill, Penay Bridge, Wakefield Road, Highfields, Roadend, Penistone Road, to pass drains and connections to our many sewers. Six houses have been fumigated after removal of patients to Infectious Hospital and sanatorium.

Appended is a classified list of nuisances reported.

Nuisances reported.	No.	Remedied	Unremedied.
Dangerous closet x ashpit	2	2	
Choked drain	5	5	
Smell in living room	1	1	
Slops thrown on surface	1	1	
Insufficient privy accommodation	1	1	
No door to ashpit	2	2	
Choked with waste	1	1	
Broken tub	1	-	
Flooded cellars	3	1	2
Insufficient water supply	1	1	
Property not connected to sewers	1		1
No public waste supply	3	2	1
Refuse thrown in yard	1	1	
Smell in cellar	1	1	
Total	24	20	4

Frank Hardy, Sanitary Inspector.

Smoke abatement No observations have been taken

Offensive trades There are none in the district

Schools The sanitary condition of the two elementary schools in the district is good except for the closet accommodation of the Church of England School which consists of tubs at present. The Managers have agreed to convert them to the W.C. System. Names of any absentees which are considered suspicious of any infectious condition are sent by the head teachers, particularly when any epidemic illness is prevalent to the L.O.H. who visits the cases and notifies the teachers if any action necessary.

HOUSING

1. The houses are mainly built of local stone roofed with grey slate. Most of the houses built in recent years are of brick or biick and plaster. The older houses are nearly all more or less damp but otherwise generally in good condition except a few groups in the more crowded parts as at Spa Bottom. There is a general shortage of houses as evidenced by the waiting list for houses erected by the Council. The Council are erecting 14 working class houses which will be ready next year and contemplate acquiring some more land on which to erect more at an early date.
   There is no important change in population but it will no doubt steadily increase as facilities in way of transport by motor bus are now being used by residents working in Huddersfield.
2. There is a certain amount of overcrowding which is rather difficult to deal with as it occurs most often in cases where they are unable to pay the rent of new houses. The Housing Committee always consider reported cases of overcrowding and given them preference whenever possible, when applications for one of new houses are made.
3. General standard is good except in the very old cottages in which long continued neglect has caused so much dilapidation that it is difficult to get owners to do necessary repairs. All minor defects are usually readily done by owners on informal notice or formal notice.
4. There are no specifically unhealthy areas.
5. New model Bye laws are under consideration.

Housing Statistics for the year 1925

Number of new houses erected during the year

(a) Local 3

(b) With state assistance under Housing Acts :-

1. By Local authority 0

2. By other bodies or persons 2

Unfit dwelling houses

1. Total No. inspected for housing defects 25

2. No. inspected and recorded 25

3. No. unfit for human habitation 1

4. No. not in all respects fit. 0

Remedies of defects without formal notice

No. of defective houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local authority 1

Action under Statutory Powers

(a) 1. No. of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 24

2. No. of houses rendered fit after service of formal notice :-

(a) By owners 3

(b) By Local authority in default of owners 0

3. No of houses in respect of which closing orders became operative in pursuance of declaration by owners of intention to close. 1

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts

1. No. of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. 12

2. No. remedied after service of formal notice 8

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11,14, 15 of the Housing Act 1925. 0

Inspection and supervision of food

(a) Milk supply Regulations under Dairies, Cowsheds Milk shops order have been adopted this year.

There are 40 cowsheds in the district, the general average condition is fair, some are very good and there are some that are structurally unfit for use as cowsheds.

There is an adequate supply of milk for the district which is supplied by farmers and dealers distributing it in milk floats.

1. Action taken as to tuberculosisous milk & cattle - nil
2. No. of licences granted for sale of milk None
3. Refusal or revocation of registration of retailers or of licences for graded milk None
4. There were no bacteriological examinations by L.A. of samples of graded milk. (or other milk)

(b) Meat

1. The sanitary Inspector was instructed to attend at time of slaughtering at the 4 private slaughter houses in the district.

There are no public slaughter houses.

Private slaughter houses in use in the area:-

In ~~June~~ 1920 2 In January 1925 3 In December 1925 - 4

Registered	4
Licenced	4
Total	4

(c) Other foods

Bakehouses There are none

Chip and fish shops 7 Satisfactory - inspected monthly.

(d) There were no cases of food poisoning.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The district during the last 5 years has been very free from infectious diseases. The yearly average has been

Diptheria	6 cases
Scarlet fever	2½
Pneumonia	5

Since 1922 there have been a total only of 5 cases of diptheria and 4 cases of scarlet fever. Except for an outbreak of Diptheria in 1921 there have been only spasmodic cases of infectious diseases. Practically all cases are removed to

Hospital. Steam disinfection of bedding etc. is done, and contacts examined and also suspicious cases and contacts notified to me by the School teachers are seen,

In July 1924 two cases of encephalitis lethargica were notified and removed to hospital.

No Dysentry or Trench fever cases have been notified. There have been no return cases of scarlet fever. Diptheria antitoxin is supplied to ~~practie~~ practitioners by the Isolation Hospital Kirkburton, on request. Among the school children whooping cough was prevalent in 1921. There were no deaths .

In 1923 measles and chicken pox were prevalent with no deaths.

In 1924 Influenza of a mild type affected the school children there were no deaths.

1925 Mumps were prevalent in the Spring , measles and whooping cough in the Summer and chicken pox in the Autumn. There were no deaths from whooping cough. In view of prevalence of small pox all cases of chicken pox that came to my knowledge chiefly from notification from the schools, were visited by me.

Notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1925

Disease	Total cases notified	Sent to Hospital	Total deaths.
Scarlet fever	2	2	0
Diptheria	2	2	0
Pneumonia	9	0	0
Enteric fever	1	1	0

Tuberculosis new cases mortality during 1925

Age periods.	new cases				deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0								
1								
5								
10		1				1		
15				1				
20								
25								
35		1						
45			1					
55								
65 upwards								
Total		2	1	1		1		1

During the period under review 11 pulmonary cases and 6 non pulmonary cases have been notified. Most of them have been referred to the Tuberculosis officer under W.P.C.C. and 9 have been recommended for sanatorium treatment and there have been 5 deaths.

Public Health Act 1925, Section 62 No action taken.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) regulations 1925 - no action taken.

Maternity and child welfare - Undertaken by W.P.C.C.

There have been no cases of puerperal fever, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Diarrhoea or Poliomyelitis.

A. Tait. L. B.

August 1926.